

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A process for dyeing fiber materials with sulfur dyes by regenerating the dyebath redox potential, which comprises, during the dyeing process, the dyeing liquor being circulated between the dyeing apparatus and an attached electrolytic cell and the sulfur dye which has been unwantedly oxidized in the dyebath being cathodically reduced in the electrolytic cell.
2. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dyebath redox potential is closed loop controlled by the cell current.
3. (Currently Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrolytic cell used is a divided electrolytic cell ~~and more advantageously a membrane electrolytic cell.~~
4. (Currently Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the conducting electrolyte ~~used is selected from alkaline solutions~~ is an alkaline solution.
5. (Previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dye concentration in the dyebath is in the range from 0.5 to 100 g/l of pure dye.
6. (Previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, conducted at a temperature in the range from 20 to 135°C.
7. (Previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, conducted under an inert atmosphere.

8. (Currently Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fiber materials ~~used are fiber materials composed of cellulose~~ are cellulose blends, or polyamide blends, or cellulose-polyester blends, or cellulose-polyamide blends.

9. (Currently Amended) A process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the electrolytic cell ~~used is a divided electrolytic cell and more advantageously a membrane electrolytic cell.~~

10. (Currently Amended) A process as claimed in claim 9, wherein the conducting electrolyte ~~used is an alkaline solutions~~ solution of alkali metal salts.

11. (Currently Amended) A process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the conducting electrolyte ~~used is sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, sodium chloride or sodium sulfate.~~

12. (Previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the dye concentration in the dyebath is in the range from 5 to 50 g/l of pure dye.

13. (Previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 12, conducted at a temperature in the range from 60 to 95°C.

14. (Previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 13, conducted under an inert atmosphere.

15. (Currently Amended) A process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the fiber materials ~~used are fiber materials composed of cellulose~~ are cellulose blends, or polyamide blends, or cellulose-polyester blends, or cellulose-polyamide blends.

16. (New) A process as claimed in claim 3, wherein the electrolytic cell is a membrane electrolytic cell.

17. (New) A process as claimed in claim 9, wherein the electrolytic cell is a membrane electrolytic cell.